GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:190
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
BIO MEDICAL WASTE
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several private health care establishments in Delhi and in other major cities across the country are flouting the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any proposal to constitute a Central level committee to monitor the implementation of Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules,

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure the strict implementation of the Rules?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORSTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.190 regarding `Bio-Medical Waste` raised by Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, MP and Shri Adhairao Patil Shivajirao, MP for reply on 12.3.2008.

(a)&(b): The respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in the Union Territories are the designated Prescribed Authorities for implementation of the Bio-medicai Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The Government of India have delegatecf necessary powers vested in it under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to all the SPCBs and PCCs in UTs, to issue directions to any industry or any other authority for violation of standards and Rules, inter-alia, relating to Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998. The SPCBs/PCCs are required to closely monitor the implementation of the Rules by the Health Care Establishments (HCEs) and take necessary legal actions against the establishments which violate these Rules.

The SPCBs/PCCs issue show cause notices to health care establishments which violate the Rules.The Union Ministry of Environment & Forests and the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have also addressed all the SPCBs and the PCCs in UTs from time to time for strict implementation of the Bio- medicai Waste (Management and Handling Rules), 1998. As a result, the compliance to the implementation of the Rules has improved over the years.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): Under the Bio-medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998, as amended,there is no provision to constitute a Central level committee to monitor the implementation of the said Rules.Under the said Rules, the SPCBs/PCCs of Union Territories are responsible for strict implementation and monitor the compliance of the Rules. However, CPCB during its interaction meets with SPCBs/PCCs does discuss further improvements in the implementation of the Rules.